

**Before the State of South Carolina
Department of Insurance**

In the Matter of:

Leslie D. Russ

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SCDOI Docket # 06-426

ORDER REVOKING
RESIDENT PRODUCER
LICENSE

This matter comes before the South Carolina Department of Insurance (the Department), upon application of David E. Belton, Esquire, Senior Associate General Counsel for the Department, requesting the revocation of Leslie D. Russ, (Producer) resident producer's license.

After careful review of the evidence presented the Department issues the following decision.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Producer is currently a South Carolina resident producer.

In the State of South Carolina, the producer failed to remit premiums to the Monumental Life Insurance Company in the amount of at least \$1,122.91.

In the State of South Carolina, the producer failed to report change of address to the Department.

In the State of South Carolina, the producer failed to respond in writing to the notice of investigation sent by the Department, after acknowledging having received it, during a telephonic communication on January 26, 2006.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Pursuant to S.C. Code §38-43-130(C)(4): "The director or his designee may place on probation, revoke, or suspend a producer's license after ten days' notice or refuse to issue or reissue a license when it appears that a producer has willfully deceived or dealt unjustly with the citizens of this State. The words "deceived or dealt unjustly with the citizens of this State" include, but are not limited to, improperly withholding, misappropriating, or converting any monies or properties received in the course of doing insurance business." Because of Leslie D. Russ failure to remit premiums to the Monumental Life Insurance Company in the amount of at least \$1,122.91, the Department may revoke or suspend his producer license.

Pursuant to S.C. Code §38-43-240(A)(3): "It is unlawful for a producer, collector, or other person to fail to turn over or satisfactorily account for all collections of the insurer when required." As a result of Leslie Russ failure to remit premiums to the Monumental Life Insurance

Company in the amount of at least \$1,122.91, the Department now move to revoke his producer license.

Pursuant to S.C. Code §38-43-107(A): "If an individual applies for an insurance producer's license he shall supply the department his business, mailing, and residence street address. The producer shall notify the department within thirty days of any change in legal name or in these addresses. (B) Failure to inform the insurance director or his designee of a change in legal name or address within this period shall result in a penalty pursuant to Section 38-2-10." Thus, as a result of Leslie Russ' failure to notify the Department of his current address, this caused the Department difficulty in corresponding with him.

THEREFORE, it is ordered that Leslie D. Russ, South Carolina resident producer's license shall be revoked thirty (30) days from the date of this order, and no license issued through the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance is to be issued to him, unless Leslie Russ requests in writing within said thirty (30) days period a public hearing before the South Carolina Administrative Law Court.

It is FURTHER ORDERED that the National Association of Insurance Commissioners be immediately be notified of this order.

This South Carolina Department of Insurance administrative disciplinary order is a public record subject to the disclosure requirements of the State of South Carolina's *freedom of Information Act*, S.C. Code Ann. §§30-4-10, et seq. (1991 and Supp. 2005). Nothing contained within this administrative disciplinary order should be construed to limit or to deprive any person of any private right of action under the law. Nothing contained within this administrative disciplinary order should be construed to limit, in any manner, the criminal jurisdiction of any law enforcement or judicial officer. Nothing contained within this administrative disciplinary order should be construed to limit the statutory duty of the Director of Insurance, exercised either directly or through the Department of Insurance, to "report to the Attorney General or other appropriate law enforcement officials criminal violations of the law relative to the business of insurance or the provisions of this title which he considers necessary to report." S.C. Code Ann. §38-3-110(3) (Supp. 2005).



Eleanor Kitzman
Director of Insurance

Dated this 19 day of January 2007